

of original notes made since at least to some extent
the survey before many things related to him. Where the
former "Papers of John" the "Papers of John" the
for 111 and 112 in 1805



THE
Famous & renowned
History of *Morindos* a King of
Spaine; Who maryed with *Miraco-*
la a Spanish Witch: and of their sea-
nen daughters, (*rightly furna-*
med Ladies with bleeding
hearts:) their births, their
lives and their
deaths.

A History most wonderfull, strange, and plea-
sant to the reader.



L O N D O N

Printed for *H. R.* and are to be solde at his
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How *Morindos* a King of Spaine
married with *Miracola* a Witch: and how
he was transformed without shape for pol-
luting the Temple of God.

CHAP. I



When Spaine was nursed with the milke of
paganisme, vertue not knowne, nor God
honoured, there lived a people so ripe in sin,
that the keene edge of Shames sickle, lay
even ready whetted to reape them downe
for confusions harvest: yet the subiects
then living were not so wicked as the King vitious: a
King we name him, (if illustrious title of maiestie, may
grace so pernicious a foe to nature with so royall a stile)
his birth was fatall, for when the midwife pulled him
from the cradle of his conception, the earth quaketh, and
heaven rained blood: his parents ominous, the one de-
voured by wolues, the other burnt to death by thunder:
his youth full of unlucky chanches, his age tyrannous and
mischievous, and all his life subiect to blacke misdoedes.
When his parents by heavens wrath had ended thus their
daies, he reigned King, and wore the imperiall Diademe,
but such a King, good men thought neuer sprung from wo-
mans wombe. *Morindos* for so we name him, being
seated upon the thyoane of maiestie, ruled not in loue but
by force, making his nobles slaues to his sinne, and their
wiues

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winces, feeders of his lust: for euery day in the yeare hee had a severall concubine, all young, beawtifull, and louely: nature framed their bodies faire, though sinne made their soules blacke: for both art and riches indeuozed to delight his insatiate desires: earths chiefeest pleasures were at his commaund: and all the lullabies of content, rockt him in the cradle of securitie: thus careles of heauens wrath, he more honoured the Deuill, then he loued God: and what was the vilest to nature, he most doted vpon. But now after al these pleasures of his wanton youth, the kind embraces of his sayre concubines, which like earthly Angells made him happy in natures sports, he wickedly fell inamored vpon one of the Deuills blacke saints, one Madam Miracola, a Witch of damnation, now burning in hell for her blacke deedes: this Madam Miracola bozne of noble parentage, brought vp in the deepest artes, skilfull in Magick charmes, and incantations, who hauing spent seauen yeres in that deepe mystery of coniuration, sildome sleeping without the society of spirits, fayries, goblins, or nightly shapss: hir chiefeest studie and ayne was at principallitie, to rule sole Queene and gouernour of the Kingdome, and no way was there to attaine to that imperial seat, but by marrying with king Morindos, though not a match fit, he being descended royally, she but nobly: yet by sorceries, witchcrafts, and magicke deuises, shee obtained hir purpose, and in this manner obtained it.

Vpon a time when king Morindos, in the height of his reuelles, whilst some of his fairest concubines, daunced befoze him naked in their cambryck smokes: the more to inkindle lustes fire, shee entred the chamber of their licentious sports, with a maske of wonder, the like neuer seene in Princes court: for all the Maskers (except hir selfe) were infernall spirits, visible, but not tangeable, all in the shape of young Ladies, attired in more changeable silkes then the collours of the Rainebowe: hir selfe

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selfe in a robe of such richnes, as it seemed to exceede the glorie of the sunne for brightnes: hir owne bodie shee im-bathed and supled with a water of such inchantment, that what man soeuer first set eye vpon her, either present loue or present death, had destinie allotted him: for well knew she that no man presumed his presence, during this time of pleasure.

This Madam Miracola, assisted by the blacke states of hell, by delusions won the kings loue: whose vnconstant eyes, no sooner firt their inflecting beames on this killing cokatrice: but all on a sodaine fire his loue inflamed, y nothing could quench it, but hir loue toynd to his, which were immediately sealed together: loue, desire, and lust, so conspired against his bewitched heart, that he presently auoided the chamber of his intising damself, and shee of hir deluding spirits: remaining then but two bodies, two hearts, and two tongues, he began to reueale lones secretes in this manner: Madam quoth he (knowing hir to be a long attender in his court) good or euill fortune hath in-chanted me, and now thy present loue or hate, must either glorifie me with earthly happinesse, or send me wandring to the darksome walkes of death, where no societie but crawling wormes and dead mens bones are resident: deny me not therefore good Madam, I am this countrys Potentate, I can commaund both wealths and power, cities, towers, and towne: Statesmen sloop, and humbly kneele vnto my foote: royalties, dignities, and al other kingly promotions, are at my disposing: vnto my pleasures all the land submits: delights are my vassels, both land, & sea as subiects stue to make me happy: I am an earthly God, be thou my Goddesse, take all these honours, I will attend on thee, be bee thy subiect, thy seruant, I will kiss thy foote: deny not my loue for thou hast bewicht my heart, inchaunted me, fired mee with a quenchlesse flame, all my boddie burnes and nothing but the sweete Dewe of thy graunt can qualifie

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qualifie it : make mee either vnfortunate or happy sweet Madame. This being breathed from his longing soule, she farre more tractable to loues motions then he, made a full conclusion of a willing acceptance in this sort: I haue a minde imperious monarche (said she) soaring vp to the battlements of heauen, no base desires nor lowe bred thought, shall any whit aspire my princely will: I layne at a kingly bed, where maiestie sleepest, whose chamber is imperious, garded with commanding statesmen: seauen weary winters, and as many summers haue my hopes bene climbing vp this kingly ladder, and now on the top of fortunes wheele am I fallen into a princes bosome: in louing me (great king) thou conquerest fate, thou subiectest hell, thou maist (by my assistance) commaund legions of the black host to houer ouer thy Pallace, and in the twinkling of an eye, blast vp all thy wicked conspirators: if our mindes but once proue equall in the cheare of soueraignty, the earth shall be farre too little for thy gouernement: my magick charmes shall vnbowell the earth, rip vp her bosome, ransack her rich treasures for thy vse: my magicke charmes for thee, and for thy pleasure shall empty the vast Ocean and cram thy kingdome with those riches that mans eye hath not seene since the worlds creation: my charmes for thy content shall pane thy Court with pearles, emrodes and Diamonds: commaund great king, and the marble stones that now compasse thy pallace shal daunce, and the ayer like singing Cherubins sound vs heauenly hermony: contents, delights, pleasures, ioyes, and all the solaces of heauen and earth, shall be thy attendants by inuesting me thy equall in great maiestie: thus, and in this maner did she clime the supremacie, and tyed vpon her backe the title of a Queene. Being both enchanted thus, and intangled in the snares of desire, they immediately tied Himens knot, a band that none sunders but death: the marriage they solemnized the same night, not able to stay the mornings rise, but

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but as blacke thoughts haue blacke euent, so in blacke manner was this marriage celebrated, it was euen at the middle of night, when the Scritch-owle, Kookes, and Dozemice, sleepe in foggy mistes: it was euen at that houre when the ghaastes of dead men walke, when murderers dreame of villany, euen when y^e earth had her sable garments on, was this sacred knot vntied, both being impatient of delay, he burning in lust, she aspiring a kingdome, conuerted the holy temple to a marriage bed: be euer black this deede of hell, and neuer be it tould but with a trembling tongue, for neuer was night more darke then this: the sable curtines of the ayer were all as pitch, and seemed to hide this polluted sinne: the earth cast vp such a misty vapour, that extinguished both fire and cresset lights: art could not make one candles flame, nor any meane of brightnesse to beholde each other: so wicked was this enterprize of theirs, that both heauen & earth shewed fatall prodigies, and euery thing (that dismall night) grew different from nature: nothing was heard but howling Dogges, croaking Toades, and hissing snakes, vnknowne voyces bellowed in the court, and the polluted Temple so vilely stained, was compassed about with gallily spirits, fire-drakes and walking Goblins. But marke now the strangest of al wonders, euen at the verie instant when the seede of procreation conioyned; euen as it were a crie of mandrakes strooke the king into a madnes, blaspheming heauen till his tongue grew dumbe, his eyes blinde, his eares deafe, his ioyntes numbe, and all his body shapelesse. And as a Beare now whelped like a lampe of flesh without fashion, lay clasped in the armes of this new made Queene. But now when the morning came, and that the light of heauen sommond all creatures from sleepe, the Nobles of his court came to his bed, side, thinking to giue them both a ioyfull good morrow, but euen as their lips gaue way to their tongues passage, their eyes espied this fearefull accident: a iudgement that heauen hath

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ildome yet sholwe, which was a king, deafe, dumb, blinde and senseles, by breathing life: which straunge sight stroke the nobles into such a maze, that without any further speach they forsooke the court, confidently thinking it vnhappie, in harboring so vile a monster as this king was. Now this new made Queene or damned inchantresse, hauing purchased a kingdom by hir blacke proceedings, was so blinded with the greatnesse of maiestie, and so rauished with the brightnesse of a crowne, being now sole Queene and gouernour thereof, made a carelesse sport of gods iudgment, and hauing in hir court none left but parasites, and flatterers, such as are commonly the right hands to principalities, made the greatest sinners the most honorable, and held the vicious in best regard: the deformed shape of the king hauing life but no senses. He caused to be put in a brasen cossen, and fed him dayly with humane blood, which he poured into his mouth through quilles of silver: the successe hereof you shall heare in the next chapter, and what a straunge conception he had after this first night of his marriage.

Here the enchanted Queene made the Devils a banquet with hir husbands bodie: her three questions to the same Devils, and their answers, and of her despairing lamentations in a darke dungeon.

Chap. 2.

Done blasted were the hopes of this aspiring Queene, and scowling mischance with a bended brow, heind in their mariadage bed: heauens wrath and hells fury, layd heauie burthens vpon them, and as it were, broke their heart-strings asunder: for Miracola, after she had cosend her deformed husband, yet breathing life, melancholly dis-

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paire, and pining grieue chiefly attended vpon her: discontent, suspition, and feare were her gardians by day, and by night: straunge visions, dolefull outcries & vniquiet dreames assailed her: wilde beasts straipe from the woods and in same manner made them denies within her court: vnlucky birds forsooke the ayre to sit vpon her pallace, such as nightowles and crooking ravens be, sounding forth satall and harsh harmony: the sun seemd to shine vpon her with a scowling face, the moone as a shand of her soules danation (in conferring thus wth deuils) as it were drew backe behinde the pitchy cloudes, and vnwillingly lent light vnto the meener starres: eache thing grew contrary to kinde, onely her selfe excepted, for she hauing made an atonement with the princes of the fiery world, put her whole confidence in them, and onely trusted through their assistance, to lead fortune in a string and at her pleasure commaund kingdomes. So vpon an euening, when the daies bright eye had left heauens safer pallace, and night with her blacke canopie, had compass in the earth, she betooke her to her priuate chamber, where Medea like, she raised vpon her oulde seruants, the furies or rather the spirits of darkenes, from their burning beds, such as condemned soules lye flaming vpon, who no sooner presented themselues befoze her, but shee questioned them in this manner: I charge you (quoth she) you enemies to heauen and man, by the band and condition made betwixt you and me sealed with my dearest blood, and by the seauen sucking babes that I once offred to you at midnight, and by the hope you haue of my soules purchase at my deaths satall tower, answere me truly to three seuerall questions which here I will presently propound vnto you: first how long my life shall continue, secondly whe- ther I shall die a Queene or not: lastly the number of my children and their following fortunes: to which propostions, these instruments of mischief immediately condescended to aunswere, but vpon this straunge condition following: that as a foe to these blacke barreters, shee

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Should deliver up her husbands deformed body, and serve it to them in seaven severall banquets, that both his flesh and blood, as a bribe to hell might be made foode for spirits: which demaund to this woman monster, seem'd but an easie request, and therefore like to the viper, which feeds upon her owne dam, gave that life and body to the tyranny of hell, which ought to have bene precious in the eye of heaven, and the dearest iewel of her owne heart: These diligent deceivers having no sooner promise of this purchased prize, but in a mistickall sort, or riddlelike, gave answers to her thre former questions, in this sort: First, for the continuance of her life, they saide she should live till the seaven daies of the weeke were forgotten: the second question was, whether she should be a queene or not, they answered that neither heaven nor earth, God nor man, should take her kingdome from her: the third and last question was, to know the number of her children and their following fortunes, to this they answered, that from her bodie should spring seaven branches, whose tops should reach to heaven: These answers to this accursed womans eares, came more soylfull, then the reports of pardon to a condemned man, and more pleasing to her heart then for a moorish slave from the cheaned gally, to be advanced unto a kingdome: therefore with a settled trust and assurance of the spanish crowne and government (little mistrusting the lie defeats of these mistickall answers) with all convenient speed provided a chamber, wherein she might perforce her damned condition, and deliver up her husbands body to the gluttony of hell: therefore ascending to the top of her palace, into a marble tower, she caused her husbands bodie to be brought together, and after commanded the walles to be hung round about with blacke mourning cloth, to signifie her damned and fatall enterprise: this being done, she purposed to devide the service of her seaven banquets into seaven severall daies, and in this manner were they accomplished: the first day upon a table

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ble of blacke Ebony, in two yron plates or platters, she set the two legs of her unhappy husband, which so often (in his good daies of fortune) beset the warlike palfrey in the honour of his country: the second day upon the same Ebony table, she placed his fine two thighes (in two vessels of lead) whose blew betwines, signified the force & strength of manhood: the third day she likewise brought to the table his secret partes and bowels, in a vessel of tin or pewter, wherein lay the seed of procreation: the fourth day she furnished the same table, in a charger of brasse, with the belly and inward partes of his body, which had so often bene cherisht with delicious and princely banquets: the fifth day in like manner in a vessel of compounded mettle named alchemie, she brought to the table his manly breast, which as a tower had many yeares closed up his heart: the sixth day in a platier of fine silver, she served in y two arms of her husband, which whilst vertue governed, held both the scepter of peace and the sword of warre: the seventh and last, day in a vessel of pure gould, being the dearest and richest service, she brought in his head, which had so often bene ornaied with an imperall diadem, containing a tongue that could in former times, have given the life or death: all these unnaturall services by the hands of a wolvisly natured woman. Being no sooner finished, & the fatall table avoided, but both heaven and earth, land & sea, as it were gave echoes of terror: hell it selfe seemd to tremble, and spewed up corrupted sauzes, & from her fiery furnaces, cast abroad such sparkling flames, y even the imbrodered vestures beset with goldsmiths workmanship, so gorgeously beautifying her bodie, were fiered: and the golden tangles of her haire, burnd from her head: notwithstanding all this nothing amazed the shameles minde of Miracula, nor any way affrighted her w the terror of heavens wrath, for y thirst of promotion so bewitched her, ambitious pride so enchanted her, and the desire of a diadem so emboldned her, that thinking both crown and kingdome her asurance for ever, by y false promises of hell: immediately

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Upon this same tower or chamber wher she had thus sacrificed her husbands body, she caused certaine characters or letters to be ingrauen upon the marble walles, concerning her perpetuall happines: The first superscription was to this effect following. Upon this earth Miracola shall lie, till the seauen daies of the weeke be forgotten: which she thought was so; ever.

The second superscription was: That neither heauen nor earth, God nor man should take her kingdome from her.

The third: That her children like seauen branches should reach to heauen.

These three promises she regarded as Oracles, and believed that through them her earthly happines should neuer end: but suddainely this violent ioy, turned into an extreme griefe, for as she stood contemplating of these neuer-ceasing delights, there entred inuisible into the chamber, one of the blacke potentates of hell, and vnder every one of these superscriptions, ingraued these significations: Under the first this: The seauen daies of the weeke, bethy seauen daughters now breeding in thy wombe, who no sooner ripe but rotten, no sooner borne but forgotten.

Under the second: Though neither heauen nor earth, God nor man, will take the kingdome from thee, yet hell and the deuill shall.

Under the third: The seauen branches whose tops should reach to heauen, be the seauen deadly sinnes that shall spring from thy wombe, whose bloody enterprises, and blacke deedes, shall clime heauen for an eternall Iudgement.

These small and ominous reuelations, were no sooner ceased vpon, by the eyes of this accursed Queene, but all the partes of her body trembled with feare: not a member but the terror thereof dissempered: now feare of Gods vengeance by little and little entred into her heart, and the quivering thought of hells damnation filld her with some fall of dispaire: without all hope of saluation, she in-

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closed herselfe in the centrie of the earth, in a cave where neither light of sunne, nor the glimmering brightnes of the moone might discend, nor any voice of man or other creature could yeeld her comfort: thus excludng her selfe from all worldly solaces, committing the gouernment of his kingdomes to Scicophants and carelesse guides, she wasted away the time of ten moneths, in this dark and solitarie dungeon, both day and night, making these or such like weell lamentations: Oh Nature (quoth she) thou nurse of euery living thing, why didst not thou end me in my first beginning? why did my mothers wombe, bying to light this my damned soule? why did my cradle rock this my body of perdition, to so many lullabies? I wish my nurses papper had yeelded nought but venomed popson, and that my swathing clothes, had ben sheetes of boyling lead, that both life and body at one instant had ben both consumed: but woe is me, I am reserved for an eternal torment: my tongue hath consented to my soules euerslasing damnation, and my hand sealed to a band that can neuer be cancelled, till I be cast into hels deuorving bowels: fall vpon me thou great frame of heauen & couer me: thunder-claps descend, whirle windes arise, and cast me beyond the bounds of mans imaginations: thou spirit of reb vengeance, transforme me to some venemous worme: make me without soule, or feeling, that my torments be not euerslasing: woe vpon woe pursues me, for the gayning of a crowne and kingdome, haue I sold and for euerslost my deare soule, whome all the treasures both of earth and sea, nor the praers of good men can euermore redeeme, curse be mine eyes that traide me to this damned study: hand be my tongue that praesid first these incantations: and woe to all my wits and senses, that so curdely gaue euers themselves, to these magick charmes: now rage and rage, be you mad, distraught and lumaticke: dig vp the bowelles of the earth, and wander far beyond the Antipodes: but oh for euers weepe, weepe thou most miserable soule, howle

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and lament that griefe may split asunder thy sad heart, for such a woful heart neuer lin'd in womans breast: thus and in this manner spent she in deepe lamentations, both minutes, howers, weekes and moneths, till her wombe grew big, and the fruit therein ripe and ready to fall.

How the enchanted Queene was deliuered of seauen daughters at one time: and how she lay in child bed one and twentie yeares after.

Chap. 3.

Now betwixt her prodigious and unlucky marriage, ten times had the silver moone renewed her brightnesse, and the time of her deliuerie drew neare vnto the appointed hower: when in great toiments both of soule and bodie, she ascended from her darke habitation, whers, for fortie weekes, her chiefest soode was sorow, griefe and care: but now like vnto the owle ashamed of the light, she came abroad, and caused provision to be made sitting for her deliuey: and although her Ladies inwardly hated her life and conuersation, yet in charitie and christian loue, they attended her safetie, being conducted to her chamber, where the painefull hower of childe bearing were to be indured: the pinching th'nes so tortured her womb (beating so strange a burthen) that she in verry griefe and agonie thereof, with her nattes tore out her owne eyes, and would haue rent the fruit aliae out of her wombe, had not the tender care of her Ladies prevented her: Thus sightles and comfortlesse fell she in laboz, wherein she continued in great extremitie for the space of seauen daies, making such bitter mone, and breathing from her painefull heart such dolefull groanes, as would haue forced euen merciless

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Eigers to pittie: and so strange was her deliuerie, that the report thereof might fill large volumes with bitter lamentations: for in seauen daies she brought forth seauen maiden children, euery one as hateful to the world, as the seauen deadly sinnes: all at one birth, a thing seldom seene, but that God in iustice will shew his iudgement, vpon so inhumane a woman.

The first was borne vpon the Sunday, which we compare vnto pride, as the course of her life hereafter shall declare, which child was called Sola, after the daies name.

The second vpon the Monday, which we liken vnto enuy, according to her liues qualitie, and boze the name of Lucina.

The third vpon Tuesday, which we alude vnto wrath, and therefore named Marcia.

The fourth vpon Wednesday supposd to be couetousnes, which we call Mercuria.

The fifth vpon Thursday, which we imagine to be drunkennes, and therefore we name her Louina.

The sixt vpon Friday, which we place for lechery, and giue her the name of Venorina.

The seauenth and last of this ominous brood, was borne vpon the Saturday, which we terme to be sloth, and so call her Saturnia.

Thus was the seede of shame brought into the world, at whose birthes seauen black rauen, set croaking directly vpon the top of her chamber, and the howlets of mischance, with fatall wings flattered against the chystall windows: each one of them bozne with teeth in their mouthes, whereat the midwife and other her assistants (the Ladies there present) were much amazed, and with trembling hearts feared to behold so strange a spectacle of nature: but as fate and destiny had allotted, they of their owne free willes, provided for these seauen monsters (thus bozne) seauen severall nurses, the wiues of seauen shepheards, which onely had their habitations, in wood-
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die caues, where they were diligently brought vp and not once suffered till their full age to come within the Court gates, where we will leaue them to fortunes direction for a time: The wefull mother of these vnfortunate children, being now safely deliuered, (through her owne extreame violence, lying sightlesse in her childbed, the onely foe to worldly delights) in the hearing of many standers by, breathed forth this pittifull complaint: oh how happy is the silly woman (saide she) that hath neither soule nor vnderstanding, whereby the threating of euercasting torments may not affright it the miseries of this worlde wherein I now deseruedly lye, are but as delights & sports in regard of them I shall feele: when the doomes daye of my life is past. I lye now as it were vpon a bed of pricking thornes, & stung with a thousand serpentine stings: but woe is me, my guiltie conscience doubts, that for my wilfull loosing of my soule. I shall lye boyling in the red hotte chaldron of damnation, more thousands of yeares; then blades of grasse growe vpon the earth, leaues vpon trees, or starres in y^e chyzell firmament: and more, which terrifies my condemned soule, I shall lye there in consuming paine, (but neuer consumed) more millions of yerres then as if a heap of sand should lye on earth, whose toppes should reach to heauen, and once in euery million of yerres an eagle should fetch away but one sand, yet would those yeares of torments haue an end, but mine can neuer finish, for telling that sweete soule that my deere saviours life was shed for: me thinks I heare seauen sucking babes knocking at heauen gates for vengeance against me, for giuing by their tender bodies as a foode for spirits: me thinks I heare seauen virgins (all the daughters of mightie Potentates) accusing me for inchanting them, to a heape of senceles stones: me thinks I heare seauen aged men, whose heads were beautified with milke white pledges of wisdom, all comming as witnesses against me, for sucking away their blood by spirits, in the likenes
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of aspes and adders, and after sacrificing the marrow of their bones, to the chiefe Prince of darknes, for which my conscience now tels me, y^e heauens y^eron hand of vengeance is euen ready to strike, and that hells wrath is inuenting new tortures for my soule: and now there is a horred voice thunders in mine eare, that this my euil stained crime shall be also scourged in my seede, and all my kindred washed from the face of the earth, into the vnknowne vault of forgetfulness: and now in speaking these wordes, all her ioints grew lame and numbe, thereby to ioyne in equall misery with her sightles eyes: where we will leaue her now, as the picture of calamitie, lying in childbed, for the space of one and twentie yeares, and speake of her childrens misfortunes, whose liues were as odious to the worlde, as the seauen deadly sinnes.

Prides Tragedie,

The life and death of Sola the prowd, the first daughter to the enchanted Queene: a history ful of dole, woe, & calamitie.

CHAP. 4



The eldest and first childe of this viperous Queene, borne vpon a sunday, bearing the name of Sola, and being the true picture of pride, in life and nature persecuting in that deadly sinne, for being no sooner growne to the ripenesse of age, and that the yeares of discretion had grafted hir with vnderstanding, she was by the nobles and ladies of the Land, brought to the court, in hope that after her mothers decease (by the decree of frowning chaunce, lying then in marvellous calamities) she would proue a gracious and good
queen

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queene, but it happened farre otherwise, for being now on the way of preferment, and climbing vp the steps of imperi- all dignitie, a kinde of commaunding pride so bewitched her, that she esteemd her selfe aboue womans kinde, and that nature had framd her of no earthly substance, but rather of the pure mould of celestiaall angels: her crimson colourd cheekes whereon the glozy of beautie seemd to shine her moony front or forehead where art and nature strove for supremacie: and her bright twinkling eyes, twithin whose pretty balls, the God of loue seemd to shew himselfe, were al in her proud imaginations so pretious for the sun to shine vpon, and her selfe, with al other partes of her bodie, the most pure workmanship of natures experience, she held to angel like, to tread vpon the grosse earth: therefore she, (the more to aduance her great pride) caused a chariot of crystal glasse to be made, close framed on al sides to keepe both winters blastes and sommers heat from her delicate bodie: the which chariot by skilfull art was waisted vp and downe, by artificial meanes deuised by mans inuention: her foode was the purest refectories of the earth, both of beastes, birds, fowles and fishes, and the onely quintisence of nourishments to maintaine life: her pleasures were the musique and singing voices of young virgins, the daughters of noble men and knights: her garments were of the finest Persian silkes, weau'd vpon silver loomes by Arabian queenes: Thus pomp and pride eleuating her minde, as it were beyond the ambition of Lucifer, who sought to pull God out of heauen and esteemd no man of that royall birth, worthy to match with her in marriage: Emperours and kings she accounted but as slaues to fortune, and the onely sabie as to variable chaunce: many high personages enterprizd the conquest of her loue, but reaped the fruites of deniall and disgrace, and were not suffered that asuming fauour, as once to kisse her proud hand: yet at last three bold aduenturous gallants, hearing her thundring fame rumord about the world, attempted

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attempted to purchase the conquest of this prize, that neither Emperours nor kings could obtaine:

The first was a Soldier, whose valor and matchles chinarie, vpon the wings of fame was carried vp and down the earth, as far as euer the golden eie of heauen hath shewen his glittering brightnesse.

The second was a Scholler, whose Academick skill in all the seauen liberall sciences, might challenge in all princes courts, the honours of the golden tongue.

The third and last was a marchant, whose trauelles by sea, round about the earth, compassing seauen times the equinoctiall line, purchased such wealth, as builded one of the greatest citties in the world: These three (times honored champions) comming befoze this proud Ladie of the earth, who sitting then like a goodesse, vpon the tribunall seat of maiestie, began their loues embassage, in this manner.

Deuine Sol (saide the Soldier) thou miracle of woman kinde, at whose birth good fortune daunced, this bodie of mine is become thy humble vassell, and now yeelds all his purchast honours at thy gracious feete: I that by warre haue forragd kingdomes, vnepeopled countrees, and made whole fields flowing with blood, wil now at thy roial commaund, kisse the sacred plot of ground, where thy celestiaall foote but standeth: I that haue dyed the stinky pavements of conquered cities with the purple goare of humaine carcases: and fed my pampered feedes with the flesh of man, am now subiected to thy thrice glorious person, and challenge to my selfe, no other happines, but one smiling glaunce from thy angellicall eyes: graunt then thy loue thou Jewell of nature, and let my soule feed vpon the happines that proceeds from the censure of thy blessed tongue in condisending to my loue: legions of aduenturous knights shall fill thy pallace with renowne, and by their knightly prowesse, fetch conquered kings from al the parts of the world, to doe obeysance to thy imperiaall greatnesse.

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And in louing me great princeſſe (qd. the ſcholler) the be-
ſearched ſtudies of all ſciences, ſhall be at thy commaund:
the pleaſures of muſique, the helpeſ of phiſicke, the elo-
quence of tongues, the ſecrets of ſtarres, the natureſ of na-
tions, and mozeouer the ſweet conſolation of deuine medi-
tations, ſhal eleuate thy ſoule to the ſhining paradice of vn-
ſpeakable bleſſednes: then make a ſcholler happy in thy
loue ſweet Sola, in whoſe deepe vnderſtanding, lye the ſe-
crets both of aire, earth and ſea.

And in louing me thou paragon of beawtie, (quoth the
marchant) the far ſeteht treaſures of rich India, the gould of
Arabia, and the vnualueſ carbuncles of gouden Ganges,
aboundantly ſhall fall into thy lap: I haue meaſured the
earth ſeauen times about, and vpon the ſea ſpread ſuch a
fleete of ſhips, and rich Argoscs, which like to a topleſſe
foreſt ſeemd to hide heauen, all theſe for thee and for thy
loue ſhal ſayle to thoſe nations where no ſunne ſhines, noz
moone giues light: to thoſe kingdomes where one night
continues ſix months, (and their purchaſe by long trauel)
thoſe ineſtimable valued beſtures, which had wont to
beawtiſie the proud queenes of Aſia: damasks, goulden
tiſſues, and robes of ſiluer, ſhall be as common to thy de-
lights, as rich ſcarleta were to the princes of Iudea: in lo-
uing me thou ſhalt be attended with moze roialties, then
king Salomon was in all his pompe: theſe and ſuch like
were the proffered curteliſes of theſe thre gallant gentle-
men, euery one hoping thereby to obtaine the good will of
this proud Ladie: who was as far from kind acceptance
of their ſeruices, as the ſcarued Lionelle is from mercy
when ſhe reaseth vpon the innocent lambe: therefore re-
t^uring no other counſellozs but pride and ambition, the
onely miſes of conſuſion, without any further conſidera-
tion, made them this anſwere.

That man (high ſpirited gentlemen) that in my bed
ſhall ſet his foote, and crop the bud of my virginittie, the
which I haue denied vnto kinges, ſhall win the ſame grace
with

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with a ſeuere taſke or knightly aduenture. Firſt to you,
thou vndaunted knight of war, if thou canſt either by po-
licy or manhood, either wit or conqueſt of thy ſword, gaine
and purchaſe me a bed, that ſhall be filld with a ſofter ſub-
ſtance then the ſoft doſone, that grows vpon the milke
white ſwans backe, thou ſhalt inioy my loue, and I will
onely be thy wife: Likewise to thee thou ſcholler like man
of art, if by thy learning or any other deep miſtery, thou caſt
frame me a fountaine, that ſhall containe a purer water
then that which raines from heauen, or that which ſprings
from the cundets of the earth. thou ſhalt gaine my loue,
and I will be onely thy wife. Laſtly to thee thou noble ad-
uenturous marchāt, if thou by any trauaile either by land
or ſea, canſt finde me a bread that ſhall be better then that
of wheat, thou ſhalt haue my loue, and I will onely be thy
wiſe. Vpon theſe ſtrict conditions, or rather Herculan la-
bours, theſe thre gallants without any further rcply, de-
parted each one his ſeueral way, ſtriving which of them
ſhould accompliſh the taſke propoſed vnto them: where
we will leaue them for a while trauailing ſtraunge can-
tries, diligently ſecking to bring theſe their ſtraunge la-
bours to an end, and ſpeake of the woſul miſeries that the
heauen afflicted this proud Ladie withall.

Many months paſſed ouer the head of this hated woman
after their departures: and as ſhe grew in age, ſo did her
pride increaſe, in ſomuch that for the mainteinance of her
vaine beawtie, ſhe had attending vpon her a hundred of
faire and yong wiues, that once euerie day with the milke
of their breatts, filld a ceſtern of fine gould, with the which
euery morning ſhe bathed her bodie, onely to make her
beawtiful faire and white ſkin moze ſmooth and amiable:
and that foode which nature gaue for the nouriſhment of
young infants, according to Gods will, ſhe wickedly abu-
ſed in the mainteinance of pride and in the ſeruice of the de-
aill: This vile courſe of life ſhe long wandred in, looſing
herſelfe in the wilderneſſe of blacke iniquittie, till the all-

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seeing eyes of wrath descended heaven, and in a moment brooke this proud creature, into such an odious leprosie, that neither eye could indure her sight, nor nostrill abide her corrupting saours: now that bodie so finely framed of natures chiefest mould, that lately would not indure the whistling of the gentle windes, were now more loathsome then the spotted adder: and that cleare celestiall face, that disdained to entertaine the comfortable heate of the warme sunne, was now more odious (to mans sight) then the swelling toad: and all those Ladies that had wont to attend vpon her, forsooke her company, and fled her chamber, as from a denne of snakes: they that kept nearest to her, were distressed people and vile malefactors, such as were lately deliuered from loathsome prisons and deepe dungeons: and these in contempt of heauens iudgement, caused she with sharpe rasers to flea off the vpper skinne, from her spotted face and leproious bodie, in hope that a new, young, and fresh skinne would againe growe, and that her beawtie in a liuely manner would againe be replenished, and not as now blemished with one stained spot or soule bicer: all this according to her will was immediately performed, but to small purpose, for the enuy of heauen clothed with red vengeance, had doomed her to a miserable death, for neither art nor nature, by any practise, could ener after couer her hated bodie with any kind of skin, but that all hir flesh continued rawe and loathsome, and putrified vnto her bones: in this torment (as a iudgement of hir pride) remained she, desiring death, but could not dye, till the moone had twice twelue times renewed her brightnes, and that the earth had twice put on her spring (times liuery) and twice scolded bearded winter disrobd dame natures Gardens: then, oh then returned the three wandring louers, with conquest of their strange adventures, each one hoping to reape the deserts of their true merriits.

The Soldier whose taske was to finde a bedde fill with

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with a softer substance then the downe feathers of swans; in this dangerous manner brought he his labour to an end.

First, after his departure from this proud Lady Sola, he travelled many strange countries, meeting with many strange people, and in searching many strange places, he happened into a cane, where liu'd a Satyr of such bignes, as mans eye had hardly scene: this Satyr liu'd vpon the spoile of travellers, within whose Cane lay the signes of such as he had murdered and deuor'd: the number of the dead bones and sculles which lay heaped there together, drew such an admiration into the soldiers heart, that for a time his feare so abounded that hee stood as it were senseles: but at last being ouercome with the bold courage of manhood, he drew forth his short semiter, and with one blow smote of the Satyrs head, whilst he lay sleeping vpon a bedde stuffed with nothing but winde, the which the soldier no sooner perceined, but he verily beleued his taske to be ended, and that a bedde stuffed close with winde, were farre more softer then the downe of signets, so taking vp the same bedde, and packing it vpon his Cennes behind him, he arrived as you heard at the pallace of this proud Ladie, whose misfortunes with fatall netes no sooner gave him intertainment, but he fell into a melancholly dispaire, and now seeing his long and dangerous trauailes, reaping no better successe, as one wearied both of life and good chaunce, conuaide the saide windie bedde into a field, vp to the toppes of a high mountaine, where vpon he laide his bused bodie, and was by the saide winde immediately carried away for ener.

The Scholler whose long trauells and deepe studie, nothing inferiour to the Soldier, after he had spent two yeares practice in framing a fountaine, that should yeelde such a Water, that neither rayned from

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from heauen, nor sprung from the conduits of the earth: a taske as he thought impossible, yet good chaunce so directed his steps, that he arriued in the Ile of Delphos, at the Oracle of Apollo, who after his deuine sacrifice, had this pleasing answer reuealed to him: The dew of heauen is neither water from the clouds, nor water springing from the earth: replenish a fountaine therewith and so conquer fate, for indeed he conquered fate: for at his returne to the proud Ladies court, in hearing of heauens iudgement laid vpon her, and how that he had consumed two yeres labor to no effect, he presently fell lunaticke and dyed. Lastly, the marchant tasted of death's cup, as dearly as the others did, for after he had brought a bread far better then the bread of wheat, which is the bread of saluation, the sacred bible of God which he fetcht from the temple in Jerusalem: but when he saw the end of his hopes rewarded with a vision of calamitie, he departed to a desert wilderness, onely inhabited with wilde beastes, where for want of foode, he fasted himselfe to death.

Then Sola after she had intelligence of the liues ruins, of those 3. gallant gentlemen, whom she had so cruelly doimed to miserable traualles, and that for her sake they all three lost their liues, she in great dispaire of eternall happinesse, breathed her soule into the aire, wishing her six sisters by her example to embrace humilitie.

Enuies Tragedie:

The life and death of Lucina, the enuious, the second daughter to the enchanted queene.

Chap 5.

Lucina being the second daughter to the enchanted queene, bearing in her breast the burning fier of enuy, neuer

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never differed from that deadly sinne, all the date of her wretched life: for after the decease of her proud sister, no long time passed en, before Iulianus then king of France, tooke her in marriage, whose nuptiall rights these two countries solemnized, in most princely manner, and the chiefest delights and pleasures belonging to a Queene daily attended vpon her: all things she could either wish or desire were at her commaundment: heauen and earth concluded to make her a happy princeesse: onely this, content of minde wanted, for nature denied to fructifie her bodie, and grace her with the name of a mother: therefore in wanting children she grew enuious to the world, and spighted those women that heauen had so blessed: now in proceesse of time, the king, queene and the nobilitie of the land road a progresse, into the countrie, more by their presence to win their subiects love, then for their owne contents and pleasure: and as in great state, and most princely manner, they passed by a forest side, where then was situated the castle of an auncient knight, and an old seruitor to the kings father in the christian warres, and therefore was intituled one of the knights of the Roads, in which castle as the queene passed by, a most pleasant and delightfull melody of musique sounded in her eare, at which not seeing any, she greatly marvelled, and demanded the cause of that extraordinary reioysing: the answer was, that vpon that day was borne to the knight and lady of the castle, a man child, who neuer before that time, for the space of twelue yeres, was graced with any: is this the cause (saide the queene) now I see howe subiects in disgrace of the queenes barrennes, will not sticke but make therof a may-game, and to mine owne eares giue me a dishonourable scandall, as I am now queene of France this their presumption shall be quitted with death, and thou shalt be the ioy they receiue in this childes birth: thus enuy like a conquerer, seized vpon all the parts of her bodie: & with the undeserued hate she bore vnto this knight

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and his ladie, her very heart plotted strange confusion & all the way as she roode along not a word proceeded from her mouth, but sanord of enuy and mallice, and not a flumber closed vp her eyelids, but it begot dreams of hate and furie: all her meditations were of the ouerthrow of these two guiltlesse soules, who little mistrusted what deadly plots she deuised against their beaueslues: every day to this enuious queene seemd a yeare till their progress ended, which as ill fortune had allotted, was by one of in this manner.

The commons of Poymandie and Pikardie, made an insurrection against the nobilitie, and came but the kings presence could alay their tumultuous furies, who with all speede, princely provided with men, money and munition, tooke his iorney towards them, whose absence no sooner gaue way to the queenes mallice, but she dispatched a messenger (one of the groomes of the kings chamber) to the betrayed knight and his ladie, not yet churched, commanding them by the dewtie of alieageance, to repaire vnto the court, and giue attendance in her chamber, till the kings returne (onely as she dissembled) the dearest friends to trust vnto.

This message of the Queenes pleasure, being no sooner deliuered to the knight and his ladie, but as dutifull subiects, reioyced that their seruices in the kings absence, could bring vnto the queene such high pleasure, therefore leaning their castle in quiet government, with all convenient speede they repaired to the queenes pallace, bearing with them their little childe, who at the first were intertaind with a friendly regard, and their childe by the queenes commandment taken from them, and as shee saide) put forth to nurse: but such a bloodie nursery I thinke neuer tender babe indured: little suspected the good knight and his gentle ladie, what a balefull banquet was preparing for them, for the enuious and angry queene, in stead of tender paye to giue the infant nourishment, the

commande

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commanded it to be made soode for that wombe, that gaue it first life: so hauing bloodie ministers ready prepared for that tyrannicall enterprize according to her wicked meaning, the prettie babe as a seruice (bapt in a pie) was brought to the table of the vnhappy parents, whome the queene had then placed in two chaires in her chamber, directly the one against the other, where after they had satisfied hunger (unknowne to them) with the fruit of their owne bowels, she locking fast the chamber doore, assisted by three or foure bloody murderers, provided for the same purpose, and bound them both fast in their chaires with hempen cordes, bands unfitting for such noble minded personages, and being now seclered in the gins of confusion, with an enuious tongue she vttered forth the rancour of her heart in this manner.

Maruell not proud knight (quoth the queene) no; thou thou painted minion of beaultie, at this your obaine misusage, for till I behould both your hearts liuelesse, your eyes sightles, and your tongues speechles, the rauening talues of fury seeds vpon my soule: what hath nature in you grafted more then in me? you bring bacely borne, haue the gifts of childe, I royally descended, am made barren, by destiny: and because the seede of procreation prospers in your adulterous beds, you liue in all sollicitie, making reioycing melodie to my disgrace, whilst I pining in wor, vainely desiring childe, canet obtaine them: therefore know that I being a queene, having a boddie yong, faire, and likely to conceaue, crost and spighted by the crueltie of nature, haue protested a secret reuenge against you, and all such as to my dishonour haue their boddes seeming with childe: and now you two shall be the beginners of my intended massacars: therefore knowe, as the first act to this my blacke tragedie, you haue fed and satisfied hunger, with the fruit of your owne bowels: so vpon thee (thou father of this dead infant, by thine owne selfe heere deuorred) I will extend such a

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torment, as neuer Tyrant deuised, but as thou art a Soldier, so Soldier like shalt thou finish vp thy daies, wherupon she caused an armour burning red hot from the fire to be brought, and without either mercy or pittie, buckled it vnto his naked backe, where (like vnto Hercules putting on the shirt that cruell Nessus sent) he made such pittifull moane as might haue enforced teares to fall from a Tigers eye, and the berry marble stones giue signes of laments, but poore knight as without cause he inured this dying punishment, so with great patience yeelded he vp his ghaost, in the sight of his beloued Ladie, who being no lesse perplered with the frights of pale death, awaited the fatall hower of the like dying torments, which according to her sorrowfull expectation, she was immediately presented withall, for whilst she sate fast bound in her chaire, gazing vpon the dead boyled bodie of her husband, this enuious queene caused her to be stript skarke naked, and to her two tender breasts, placed two speckled venomous snakes, almost starued for want of foode, which with their poisoned stings suckt her hearts life blood quight through her breasts, during which time of her dying torments, continuing for the space of an hower, these and such like lamentations she breathed forth.

Oh you dreadfull powers of heauen! why in a milde womans breast, haue you placed a Tigers heart: why haue you suffered kinde to worke against kinde, nature against nature, and reason against reason: one woman thus cruelly to betray another: oh where is gentlenes become: whether is mercy fled: one beast will not hurt each other, the vilest worme the earth breeds, will by nature pittie one another: but here is a woman that hath shamed her sex, distained nature, polluted woman kinde, an enemy both to heauen and earth: she hath made me husbandless, and childlesse, and immediately will make me liuelesse: oh thou celestiall tower, where iustice sits enthroned, open thy glorious gates to entertaine a widows curse, strike downe
with

& Miracola a Spanish Witch.

With a heavy hand, let shame and distraction persue her to death, let some miracle of her tyranny be the worlds mark till doomes day: some strange confusion finish vp her life to appease the soules of three vnifortunate wretches, onely made miserable through the enuy of a malicious queene: and now thou earth farewell, thou nurse and mother of my life adieu, let three liues in two bodies be in thy bosome intombd, for now I feele deaths wrath tearing my heart in sunder and the berry minute of my life fading, and gentle death now art thou welcome: thus with a groane I close thee in my bosome: and in speaking these wordes the branches of her life withered: The enuious queene thus triumphing in the victorie of their destructions, not any whit relented at the pittieous moane of this good Ladie, but like an untamed Panther, deuised new cruelties against their dead bodies, which she performed in this vile maner: Contrary to good nature and all humanitie, she caused a furnace to be heat red hot, and therein consumed the substance of these dead bodies into pale ashes, from whence flew sparkling flames of fire, like flakes of bloud vp towards heauen, as it were chalending vengeance at the throne of maiestie.

These tyrannicall deedes both against life and death were no sooner effected, but news came vnto her, of her princely husbands returne from quieting the commons tumults, whom she purposed with a dissembling countenance of ioy to entertaine: so attiring herselfe in her richest ornaments, attended on with a troope of honourable Ladies, some mile distant, from her blood-stained pallace, she gratulated the king with a princely welcome home: but (as the angry fates had iustly decreed) before the word of welcome could proceed from her mouth, the heauens cast such a dark cloud ouer y^e earth, with such a feareful tempest, and thunder, that the fruites of the earth flamed & the leaues of trees were scorched to satisfie y^e angry wrath of heauen, wherat the king afrighted in minde, challenged the queene of some
blacke

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black misdeed by her committed, heauy in the sight of hea-
uen, in being thus offended with the world, but the whose
heart, blushtes flame had hardned, grew impatient at his
speeches, and wistht that heauen might make her one of
the worlds wonders, if euer the wrought or consented to
any deede of shame, other then what vertue put her in
minde to doe. this presumptuous wistht of hers so displeased
the al-seeing powers, that immediately the bowels of the
earth cleaued, and swallowed her vp aliue into her gaping
wombe: and directly in the same place where in sinking
she gaue the world a farwell, sprung vp a blood red statue
of stone, seeming to haue weeping eyes, and wringing
hands, which to this day there still stands, and is recor-
ded in the french Annalls to be one of the seauen wonders
of ffrance: the king hauing a conscience touched with re-
moyce and dreading least the heauy wrath of Heauen,
should for her blood-stained sinne light vpon the whole
country: therefore after he had searched out the whole fac-
tion of this blacke misdeed, and put them to execution: as
a pilgrime bare legd, bare footed, clothd in hairecloth, he
wandered to Jerusalem, and at the Sepulcher of Iudas
God, crad remission for this his dead queenes offence. by
which meanes he wistht away this stayned spot, from his
countrie b2owe: and after spent his daies in tranquillitie
and peace.

Wraths Tragedie:

The life and death of Marfia the wrathfull, the third
daughter to the enchanted queene.

Chap. 6.

The third sister of this satall generation, might in the
right of nature, challenge as great supremacye of beau-
tie

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tic as the other her two former sisters: and not onely an
amiable countenance and comely proportion, orned her
outward shape, but an excellent gift of art and nature
beautified her inward parts, for her minde being reple-
nished with artificiall misteries, so iudiciall in the tongues
of learning, so perfit in eloquence, so carions in needle-
woorkes, the onely exercise of princes, that the world e-
steemed her one of the muses darlings, and the verry par-
ragon of woman kinde: in her the whole lands happines
consisted: the onely excellent artist of her time, hauing
a supernaturall gift, in the noble science of Limming.
wherein she greatly delighted, and the more to make her
same glorious in the world, she with a pencell portraied
in a map or picture, the frame of the creation of the world:
euery thing in his right shape, so liuely set forth, as both
beastes, fowles and fishes seemed to retaine life: the sunne,
moone and starres, as it were gaue a kinde of light, so ar-
tificially shadowed the their qualities: woods, fieldes,
and forests appeared properly Greene, and flourishing, and
the watry sea gliding through the earths bowome, glisse-
red like christall, and her swelling billowes seemd to rise
and fall, that no earthly eye could make a difference be-
twixt them and the surges of the vast ocean.

This excellent peece of workmanship being to her hearts
content finished, was set to the open view of all eyes, chal-
lenged a superiortie in that misterie aboue all others of
the time: but now amongst many that came from all parts
of the kingdome, to behold this rare peece of workman-
ship, there came one, whose skill therein, the whole earth
admired, the which in former times had bin tutor to this
Princesse, and first instructed her in the principles of this
delightfull arte: this reuerent man (for his milke-
white head claimed reuerentnesse) after he had in the pre-
sence of many noble personages, circumspectly viewed e-
uery secret of this rare worke, and marking euery curi-
ous shadow how it was laide, lastly found a defect in

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the portraiture of man, and to this Princeſſes disgrace, as ſhe tooke it, found great fault therewith, at which Marſias wꝛath ſo inkindled, and with ſuch flames fiered her whole bodie, that in preſence of all the nobilitie, with a ſiluer bodkin ſtriking in the goulden trammels of her haire, ſhe furioſly ſtabbed the good old man vnto the heart, ſo greatly her wꝛath preuailed: this bloodie and iraged fact, by the whole aſſembly was generally lamented, and by her wꝛathfull hand no ſooner done but repented, ſoꝛ wꝛath being of nature ſodaine, a little ouerpalled, conuerſts into remorse, ſo happened it with this Ladie, ſoꝛ when her eye beheld the purple goare of his liueles heart, panting vpon the ground, ſhe ſtried in reuenge thereof to ſeare out her own eies, and would haue committed that bloody crueltie vpon her ſelfe, had not the ſtanders by preuented her. wherevpon in great agonie, ſhe vttered forth this iraged complaint.

Oh why wilt not heauen (quoth ſhe) take my blood ſtained life, and bꝛeath into his bꝛeathles bodie new aire? or why may not my eyes ſoꝛake their hated cels, within his eies to giue a ſeeing power: oh y this bꝛeaſt of mine were now vnbowelled, and this my wꝛathfull heart toꝛne from my boſomes cloſſet, and ſacrificed vpon that carkaffe, which my cruell hand hath vntimely ſlaine: be therefore oh thou fatal hand, ſoꝛ euer lame, deny to giue ſuſtenance to this my vile bodie, harboꝛing now nothing but cogitations of reuenge: graunt this oh heauen, that from henceforth I may neuer taſt one bit of ſoode in ioy, noꝛ walke abroad but in diſcontent, noꝛ ſleepe but in frightfull feares, noꝛ dꝛeame but of melancholly diſpaire, ſoꝛ my ſodain hand hath ſlaine, the miracle of humanitie, within whoſe head, (whilſt life laſted) dwelled true wiſedome, a tongue tipt with eloquence, and a voice reſounding reports of celeftial vnderſtanding: theſe and ſuch like paſſions vttered ſhee from the fury of her repentant ſoule, which immediately had ſoake her heart ſtrings, had not the care of her Ladies, (then

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(then there attending) conducted her to her chamber, where they with the harmony of muſique and melodie of voices, rockt her grieved ſences into a ſilent ſlumber, in which quiet reſt (as they imagined) they left this diſtreſſed princeſſes: but ſoꝛ otherwiſe happeneth ſtill to a troubled minde, ſoꝛ as ſhe lay ſighing and ſobbing vpon her bed, gréuſing at the blood ſhe ſo wꝛathfully ſpilt, there appeared befoꝛe her face, the gaſtly ſhape of the murdered old man, ſwan & pale in viſage, bꝛeathing forth hollow groanes, to the deepe terror of her ſoule, and ſeemd to her affrighted eies, to open the cloſſet of his bleeding bꝛeaſt, as it were thiſtling ſoꝛ reuenge, and deſiring blood ſoꝛ blood: This fearefull and ſtrange ſight, ſo deeply moleſted her conſcience, that from that time forward, ſhe baniſhed away al thoughts of ſocietall ioy, and delighted in nothing but her owne conſuſion, ſo heauy lay the guilt of murder vpon her ſoule, ſoꝛ after that time not any ſoode would ſhe euer take into her bodie, noꝛ euer after indure the fellowſhip of people, noꝛ neuer ſuffer one ſmall ſlumber to cloſe vp her eye lids, but in great woe and miſerie, ouerwatched and pined her ſelfe to death, to the great diſcomfoꝛt and ſoꝛrow of the whole land, who by a generall conſent, intombed both their bodies in one graue, and erected therevpon a ſumptuous ſepulcher, the which to this day ſtandeth in great gloꝛy in the citie of Paris.

Auarice her Tragedie:

Or the life & death of Mercuria the couetous, the fourth daughter to the enchanted queene.

Chap 7.

The fourth of theſe unhappy children, bearing the name of Mercuria the couetous, eſteeming the countries content, beyond the gloꝛies of y court, baniſhing from her ſelfe

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a princely desires, accounting the the brads of ambitio, & the onely spurs of distruction: so making her three former sisters a memoriall example of principallities downefall, she purposed to spend her daies as a shepheardisse in the courtie, where in stead of a royall court, she had the siluaine fieldes and mountaines to liue in, & in place of her princely attendance, she had her flocks of sheepe to delight in, whose plentifull increase of wooll, were as the treasures both of land and sea: her imperiall diadem, was her sheepe hooke: her pleasurable musique, the chirping melodie of birds: her guard, the pretty watchfull curie, that with his shirle barking gaue notice of insuing daungers: and the treasons complotted against her, were the tyranny of deuouring wolues: but such was her siluaine care and countrie diligence, that her flocks sustained small hurt by the bloody rage of this spoiler, by which meanes in short time, her riches grew vnualuable, and her treasures without number: but the greedy thirst of her wealths further increase, so bewitched her insatiate desires, that her berry soule grew rotted with vile couetousnes, and the smallest losse thereof drew drops of blood from her heart: she feared to trust the aire with her mony, least the winde should consume it away: nor the earth, least the wormes should consume it: nor the sea, least fishes should purloine it: but in a more securer manner (as she thought) she intended to hide it betwixt heauen and earth, that both months, weeks daies, and howers, she might with the sight thereof gluffe the sight of her thirstie eies, so hauing a huge some of pure gould, closed in an Ioyne truncke, the which in a darke gloomy night, (the secret concealer of all blacke deedes) she conuaided and hid in the hollow trunk of an old withered oake, standing betwixt two steepy hills: where the tracking steps of man sildome treadeth: in which hollow tree, almost rotten with age, she secretly hid this rich iewel of her soule: intombing it therein with these speeches: Lie thou there (quoth shee) my sweet gould, thou great

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commander of mankind, my desires content, my earths happines, my hearts ranither: by seeing thee I am raiued with ioy, & in possessing thee I feede vpon the pleasures of the world: what is it not but gould can bring to passe: gould can purchase kingdomes, and betray Princes: gould can buy preferment, and make men mightie: gould can make the swill wife, and curb authoritie: gould can win faire Ladies, and wrong the marriage bed: gould can tempt the chasteest, and sack virginities: nay gould can change vice into vertue, faith into troth, and vile villany into pure honestie: then bethou sweet gould my second soule, for in loosing thee the world ends with me: in this manner left she this corrupting gould lying in the hollow tree, purposing every day once to feed her eies with the bewitching sight thereof: but now make what happened to this couetous woman, the next morning by the opening of the daies windows, there came vnto the same place where this gould lay, a poore man, a distressed wretch with a rope in his hand, vpon the same tree to end his wearisome life: the reason was, that the pittifull cries of his wife and childen, complayning for bread at his hands he not being able to satisfie their wants, came thether to hang himselfe, and so by that meanes rid himselfe from the complayning cries of his poore wife and needy childen, but as the good chaunce of smiling heauen was, in tying the roap about an arme or bough of the same tree, making a noose to put ouer his head, and in giuing the vnkinde world a dolefull adew, he espied this coffer of gould, at which he staid from that selfe wild murther, and being ioyfull of so rich a purchase, left the rope there still hanging, and carried the coffer home, to the comfort of his wife & childen: thus you see heauen by good meanes, sand the deare soule of this desperate man, and releued the distressed estate of his almost starved family: which we leane now in groat ioy, and speake of the wofull calamitie, tyed vpon the backe of this couetous ladie, who immediatly after this poore mans departure, came vnto the aforesaid tree to

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looke vpon her gould, whereby her heart might leape at the topfull sight thereof: but no sooner found she her hopes frustrate, her gould gon, and an instrument of death left hanging vpon the tree in place thereof, she grew into such a violent dispaire, that without either care of her liues safetie, or prouention of her soules damnation, in the same coorde she strangled her selfe: her bodie being thus made breathlesse, exempted from the sight of people, had no other buriall but in the rauening maines of hunger-starued sowles: whose straunge confusion had neuer bin knowne, but through the voice of her troubled ghaist, which walked many yeares after betwixt those two hills, and revealed it to the country inhabitants: thus was her couetousnes scourged for a grievous sin, both by heauens and hell.

Gluttonies Tragedie:

Or the life and death of Louina, the drunkard, the fift daughter to the enchanted queene.

CHAP. 8.



Iouina now the subject of our tragick storie, and fift daughter to this enchanted Queene, as fate and chaunce ordained, was matcht in marriage to the rich Cardinall of Lozraine, whose court for magnificence, equallized any prelates before his time: for every day byrising and downe lying, he had a thousand officers in his pallace, and prouision for the maintenance thereof, were the customes of three riche dukedomes: this haughtie and proud Cardinall, was in his life so vicious, that he accounted drunkennes a deed of manhood: and he that could best deuise new seruises to

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pamper by gluttonie, he advanced to great authoritie: and his riotous table was accounted the treasure of earth, aire and sea, of beastes, foules and fishes: but God owing him a grievous shame, in the middle of his magnificence, when he feasted at one time in the honour of his greatnes, three christian kings: to the wonder of them all, he was choakt with a grape huske, hapning in a cup of Arabian wine: this his sodaine death not onely amazed the whole company, but drew such a discontent into the minde of Louina, that she purposed a present reuenge vpon the whole countrie: and as the customes of y^e nations are, that by the death of such an imperious prelate, all the land & reuenues fall from the wise: so she to make a spoile thereof made such a funerall banquet, as Spaines chronicles to this day speaks of: for no sooner had the earth closed by the Cardinalls perfumed bodie, and deliuered the same to the fury of consuming wormes, but this gluttonous woman by sound of drum and trumpets, caused a proclamation to be made throughout all the country, of a free banquet for the space of seauen daies, awarding to him or her that could rate or drinke the moste, a hope of pure gould to compasse in their bellies: the report of this deadly prize of sin, being no sooner bruted abroad, but of rioters, spendthrifts, gluttons, and drunkards, from all parts arrived such numbers that the walles of Lozraine could hardly containe them, the tables whereat they sat were as natures storehouse, variably yeelding all kinde of delicacies, and their pampered wombes as the insatiate gulfe of hell neuer sufficed: some there were that had their bellies split in sunder by overfilling them: some in the middle of their gluttony choakt with superfluities, some by overcharging themselves with wine, vomited out their inward partes, and some fell into such deadly sleepes, as they neuer wakened againe: and of all these multitudes of people, the tenth man departed not away with life, so consuming a tragedie brought this vile deed of gluttonie, and drunkennes vpon that country.

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Now Louina her selfe seeing the earth almost strewd over with stifeled carkasses, began to enuy at the powers of heauen, and in contempt thereof, drew forth a sharpe knife, and threw it vp toward the aire, saying, I wil wound fate and dismember the destinies, in crossing thus the glory of my magnificent banquet: but the knife she cast vp neuer more descended, but in stead thereof fell downe three drops of bloud, directly before her vpon the table where she sat, which strange and dismall sight strooke terror and remorse into her conscience, and such a despairing repentance into her cogitations, that from that time forward (as the angry heauens had appointed) she consumed the remnant of her life (which was but short) in bitter lamentations: Now blacke vengeance (quoth she) hath doomed me with a thousand calamities, and the scarlet canopie of destruction is euen ready to close in my hated life: in moste vile courses haue my loathed steps wandred in, and now the reward thereof is shame & confusion: me thinks I heare succoules people calling for that food I so gluttonously haue spent: me thinks I heare the unpittied widdow, and the hungry orphan, challenging my destruction: me thinks I heare the decrepit and aged wretches, soliciting heauen for reuenge: me thinks I heare the pining prisoners, in deepe dungeons, exclaiming againe my riotous gluttony, and me thinks the troubled earth, bellows vp returning echoes, against my sinne drowned bodie: thus mourned her relenting tongue, till her vnsanchable wombe grew as it were starued with hunger, and then striving to suffice nature, could not, for the pipes of her liues maintenace, were clunged vp, and by the lust powers of mortallitie, had a heavier iudgement laide vpon her, for that foode which heauen and nature ordained for her liues sustinance, were conuerted into a contrary substance, her bread beauen changed into stoues, her meat into venemous toads, and crawling wormes: and her drinke into a puddle of poysonous liquor, the stench & sauer whereof no nostril could indure: thus

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thus exempted both from heauens grace and earths pittie, she languished many daies, hated of God and man: till the fatall sisters finished her wearisome life: this was the heauens scourge for gluttonie and drunkenness, as black a sin and as deadly as any of the seauen.

Letcheries Tragedie:

Or the life and death of Veneria the lustfull, the sixt daughter to the inchaunted queene,

Chap. 8.



Will followes one misfortune vpon another necke, woe vpon woe, calamitie vpon calamitie: and this seed so wickedly sowne, could not chuse but be blasted in the bloome: now to our sad discourses, no sooner had Veneria the sixt daughter of

this inchaunted queene, yeelded vp the tender bud of her virginittie, changing her mayden head for a wifes honour, being then conioynd in marriage with the Princely king of Bohemia: before one month had consumed thirtie daies, grew inamorad vpon a base groomme, one of the kitchen scullions, whom in her lustfull eye, seemd to be a fellow of knightly behauiour, though a deformed bassell of humble seruitude, therefore as the temptations of sin had deluded her, careless of her princely husbands honour, and regardless of her owne reputation, vpon a time in her husbands absence, she caused this hated night-owle the scullion, to be sent for, touching (as she dissembled) some serious busines to be imployd in: who being no sooner priuately come into her presence, but revealing the burning heat of her lust, she gaue him this vnlookt for intertainment: Little thinkest thou good Antonio (quoth she, for so was he named)

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named) what high promotions are heaped vpon thy head: for nature in thy first creation, ordained thee to enioy the pleasures of a princely bedde: though enuious time now burthens thee with slauery, yet fate and good fortune crowns thee with happines: then knowe thou iewel of mine eye, that my bosome contains a heart dauncing at thy presence, and without the scution of thy loue, it will quight consume away: I being a Princesse am more happy then the country milke-maide, for she may challenge that same loue that fācy leads her to, but I dare not claime the least interest of my pining passions: be not hard hearted then deere Antonio, be as gentle as the clasping vine, hem in my bodie with thy manly armes, take the pleasures of my honours sacke, feede on content, if content be in my yeelding bodie, for I am impatient of delay: my husbands armes are like vnto the twinding imbraces of serpents, his kisses as the crokavils, and his bed more loathsome then a den of snakes: oh that nature had made me humble as thy selfe, partner in thy fortunes, and thy second selfe, either now yeeld to my desires, or I vow by him that made both heauen and earth, I will pursue thee with a vengeance more terrible, then euer mans irefull heart imagined: and conclude on this, that either continuall happines, or euerlasting misery is put vnto thy hearts choyce: now this poore wretch, vnaccustomed to these demands, stood for a time as one new dropt from the cloudes, not knowing what to resolute vpon: but at last as it were raniſhed with all celeſtiall blessednes, and seeing time as he thought fit for euer to make him selfe happy, by inioying the delightſome fauours of so great a princeſſe, condeſcended to ſatiſſie the deſires of her burning luſt: and according to her pleaſure, with blacke miſdeeds diſtained the whight honours of her marriage bed: Veneria hauing thus wonne him to her wiſhes, cauſed his bace attires to be ſtripped off and his bodie to be clothed in rich beſtures, the more to feede luſtes gluttonie, and appointed him the next night to

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to ſet foote within her adulterous bedde, which in moſte wicked manner was accompliſhed: But now marke how ſhame cannot lye long hid, nor the concealer of ſinne (darke night) couer this polluted crime: but as conſuſions watch-bell ſounded theſe her diſhonours abroad, through the faithfull beautie of the kings chamber-keepers, he had intelligence thereof: ſo chuſing to himſelfe a ſelected number to effect his reuenge, at the middle howe of night, when nothing diſquieted the ſleepes of humane creatures, but the gentle bluſſtering of windes, and the muſcull murmurings of running waters: he entred the chamber of this luſtfull and adulterous queene, who ſecurely lay then ſleeping in the boſome of this bace ſcullion, droue ſuch a rage into the heart of the vniquiet king, as fleſh and blood could hardly indure it: therefore drawing a ſhort ſemiter from his ſide, he ſheathed it in the breaſt of his wifes minion, whoſe blood with ſuch fury guſhed from his polluted boſome, as it awakened the ſinne ſtained queene, who at the firſt ſight of her husbands preſence, in her ſmock all to be ſprinkled with the ſcullions blood, fell downe vpon her knees, craving remiſſion for that crime which ſhe ſo long had thiſtred after: but the enraged king to her penitent contrition, was as remoyleſe as the deafe adder, and as far from granting her life, as the ſoules in hell bee from ſaluation, yet being his ſecond ſelfe, a collop of his owne fleſh, and his owne marriage choiſe, he would not deſile his cleare hands with her deſeſted blood, therefore as a pining penance for this luſtfull fact, for this marriage bed ſo diſtained, for this nuptiall promiſe broken, for this woollous ſcandall, this married mans diſhonour, and for this euerlaſting ſpot of diſgrace, he inflicted vpon her a lingering puniſhment, which in this manner was immediately effected: Firſt he cauſed a large coſſen to be brought, wherein he put the murdered bodie of the ſcullion: then to the ſame dead bodie, (beginning now to peutriſe and ſinck) he tyed the liue bodie of his queene, and ſo in the coſſen cloſed them vp

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both together, that as she inioyd his fellowship in life, so might she consume with him being dead, by which meanes the verrey wormes that bred vppon the dead carkasse, in a manner deuorwed by her liue bodie: and thus were the finnes of lust and adulterie, scourged with a plague but sildome heard of.

Sloths Tragedie:

Or the life and death of Saturnia the sluggard, the seauenth and last daughter of the enchanted Queene.

Chap. 9



Aturnia the last, but not the unhappiest of these sisters, had the gentlest fortune of them al allotted her, yet in struiuing to preuent fate, was taken in her owne trap, and when she least dreamed on, tasted of the bitter cup of death: the worlde she accounted the wildernes of iniquitie, and the verrey puddle of misery: therefore hating the fellowship of mankind, she purposed to forsake all princely glories, courtly delights, and worldly pleasures, and betake her to the solitary life of Diana, and to spend the remnant of her daies in some desert wildernes, where no sinne abounded. So vppon an evening, without company she stole from the court, guided by the pale light of the moone, and the twinckling star-light of heauen, she happened into a thicke groue of trees, as it were inhabited onely by fayeries, elues, and the ghaastes of dead men: day and night there seemd all one: the glorious sunne as a stranger there shewd his face, and the voices of humaine creatures were accounted as fall to be there heard: night-rauens, howlats, battes with leather wings, flying griffens and kokatrides, couered quight o-

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uer these thickets: vpon the ground lay red bellied worms, speckled snakes, hissing adders, venemous toads, lothsome spiders, and sleeping dozemice: so that neither heath nor grasse was there to be seene, onely heaps of browne mosse, vppon the which she rested her discontented bodie: twice twelue moneths without waking slept she there vpon, onely fed by the gentle meanes of greene-capt fayeries, in which long sleepe her dreames were of the torments of hell, and the manner of her six sisters punishments in that damned region.

First in her sleepe she beheld her eldest sister, bearing the name of Pride, attired in a garment boyled in molten lead, with a neckercher about her necke of flaming fire: and her dainty feete seemed to walke vppon red burning coales.

Next, she beheld her second sister, called Enuy, grasping in her hands a paire of fiery stinging snakes, which as it were lay feeding vppon her flesh, euen readie to burst with the aboundance of blood suckt from her bosome.

Then she beheld her third sister called Wrath, wading into a boyling caldron of fire and bymistone, vnto the very chin, and in brazen ladles casting the same vp and downe in great fury.

When first she her eye vpon her fourth sister named Couetousnes, feeding on melted gould, and euery part of her bodie behung with burning pearles, saphires & diamonds, which seemed to seare the verrey flesh from her bones.

After this she beheld her fift sister, which was Gluttony sitting in a flaming chaire, at a table of red hotte porne, serued by devils, with broiled toads vppon grid-vorns, and drinking downe challices of boyling mettles.

The next vision was her sixt sister, named Letchery, lying in a bed of smoking sulpher, deliuered of a brood of vipers, who with their fiery teeth fed vppon her bowels, and as it were had her bodie spread all ouer with bile leaprofic.

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These were her fearefull dreames and continuall apparitions, in which vnquiet sleepe she remained without waking, till her bodie grew shapeles, hauing no proportion, as then made the shelter for toads, frogs, and venemous wormes, to breed in the excrements of the earth, and the deformities of nature: thus vanished her life away in sleepe, being no way able to withstand the seuerie indignation of heauen.

Of the enchanted queenes dispaire, and how she was carried away aliue by deuils.

CHAP. 9.



After the death of all these seauen deadly sisters, now brought to confusion by the blacke doome of mortallitie: our tragick story bids vs returne to the inchaunted queene, lying all this while in childbed, sightles and lame, hauing no feeling in any part of her members, which miracle of misery, after she had intelligence of her seauen daughters tragicall ends, assuredly beleued that then her life was at the last period, and the time of fearefull death drew nere, according to her conditions made to the deuil, who promised she should liue till the seauen daies of the weeke were forgotten, which she aluded to her seauen daughters so named: now feare, terror, and pining dispaire assailed her on all sides: now dreaded she euery minute, her soules departure to that burning furnace, whose fire is ten times more hotte then this earthly fire, and now euery small nois she heard, she supposed, to be the hurring of deuils that came to take possession both of soule and bodie: euery minute wished she now to be whole yeares, howers, millions and daies endles,

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les, time to stand still, or the world to end: now she repented her ambition, her aspiring dignities, and all those desires of a kingdome: now repented she the selling of her soule: her hands sealing with her owne blood, and all her agreements with blacke hell: euery time the clocke struck put her in minde of eternall damnation, and how that helts gaping mouth stood ready to receiue her: cursing the benefactors and causers of her creation: thus in deepe remorse of conscience, spent she out the firesome day, the last day of her worldly life, till the cloudy evening with her pitchy mantle approached, the onely comparatiue of gloomy hell, the which had no sooner shut vp the bright eye of heauen, but cloudes more darke then darknes it selfe, checked the world with motions of pale death: such tempests of lightning and thunder, brooke from heauens chistall portalls, that it euen blasted the beautie of the earth, and atired both trees, hearbes, and flowers, in a mournfull linery: this night to al mankind was a night of feare, a night of relentless terror, a night of confused desolation, in which extremitie of horror it continued till the mid-nights howler, at which instant time with a clamorous roaring, that seemed to shake both heauen and earth, the wrathfull powers of blacke hell, fetcht away both her bodie and soule: the which being done, the heaues cleared, the earth replenished, and after followed a time of plentie, peace and prosperitie.

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